

REMARKS

Claims 1-148 were pending in this application. Claims 88, 91, 120, 121, and 122, have been amended in the manner set forth above. Claims 1-87, 89, 129, and 140-143, and the first occurrence of 144 have been canceled without prejudice. No claims have been added. It is respectfully submitted that all remaining claims now stand in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of all outstanding rejections is requested at this time.

Double Patenting Rejections:

Claims 1-4, 7-119 and 123-145 were provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as claims 1-4, 7-119 and 120-142 of copending Application 09/910,085. Claims 5 and 6 were provisionally rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 5 and 6 of copending Application 09/910,085. Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of the amendment as set forth above and an amendment in the co-pending application should obviate any continued double patenting rejection.

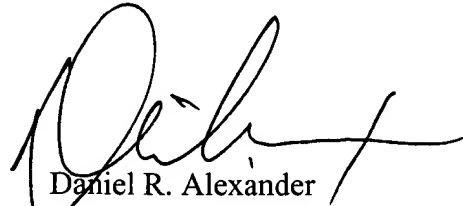
Applicants greatly appreciate the diligence of the Examiner with respect to the present application and its copending related applications. To avoid placing any undue burden on the Examiner, and in order to promote an expedient and efficient prosecution, Applicants are receptive to any suggestions the Examiner may have regarding the identification of allowable subject matter in this or the related applications. Moreover, if required, upon the identification of allowable subject matter, Applicants will be willing to submit appropriate terminal disclaimers.

Authorization is provided to deduct any fee necessary for the acceptance of this paper from Deposit Account 04-0500.

Respectfully submitted,

October 9, 2003

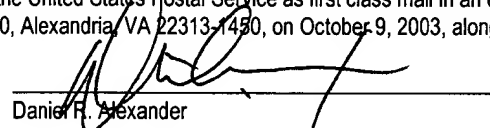
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 9, 2003, along with a postcard receipt.



Daniel R. Alexander